GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:429
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2001
CHOLESTEROL REDUCING DRUGS
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;RAM JEEVAN SINGH

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a): whether the Government are aware of free availability of certain cholesterol reducing drugs in the country which are banned in US; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to check the marketing of such drugs in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) & (b) One of the Cholesterol reducing drug Cerivastatin which wasmarketed by M/s Bayers Pharmaceuticals in USA and other countries in 1997 has been withdrawn in August 2001 from US market due to adversereports of fatal rhabdimylosis associated with this drug. In India M/s Bayer`s India Ltd. and M/s Torrent Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Ahmedabad who were permitted to market Cerivastatin have also withdrawn it voluntarily from Indian market in August 2001. All State drug control authorities havebeen directed to ensure that Cerivastatin tablets are not marketed anywhere in the country.